

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated April 7, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of claims 6, 8 and 9. The withdrawal of the previous grounds of rejection, and the indication that claims 1-5 and 10-17 contain allowable subject matter, is noted with appreciation.

Pursuant to the examiner's suggestion, the subject matter that was added to claim 1 in the previous response has been moved to the end of the claim, to remove any possible issues of antecedent basis.

Claims 6, 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over the Ikeda Patent Publication (US 2002/0191089) in view of the Maeda et al patent (US 5,606,420), both of which are newly cited. The Ikeda publication was cited for its disclosure of an imaging apparatus having a removable memory for storing recorded images and the ability to transfer program data from external equipment. The Maeda patent was cited for its disclosure of a camera having a program to execute multi-image processing of images recorded in a memory card.


To clarify the distinctions between the claimed subject matter and the prior art represented by these references, claim 6 recites a photographing apparatus having, among other features, an interface for reading, from an external recording medium, a program for processing image data recorded in a removable memory card. The claimed photographing apparatus also includes a controller for executing the program read from the external recording medium while using a temporary task region in the external recording medium. Thus, as described in the specification, by utilizing a task region in an external recording medium, such as a fixed or removable drive in a connected PC, the photographing apparatus does not have to be equipped with a large amount of memory itself to perform the image processing.

It is respectfully submitted that the Ikeda publication does not disclose this claimed combination of features, even when considered in light of the teachings of the Maeda patent. While it discloses the ability to download a program into the imaging apparatus from an external device, it does not disclose that, while that program is being executed, a controller in

the imaging apparatus utilizes a task region in that external device.

For at least this reason, therefore, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are patentable over the prior art of record. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims, and prompt notification of the same, is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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